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REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-5, 8, 10-12, 15, and 16 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 3, 8, and 10 are amended and claims 2 and 9 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Office Action's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 2, 3, 9, 10, and 15, 16.

The Office Action rejects, under 35 U.S.C. §103, claims 1, 4, 5, 8, 11, and 12 over Lee et al. (U.S. Patent No.5,430,732) and Kumar et al (U.S. Patent No.6,657,987). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 is amended to recited allowable dependent claim 2 in independent form. Independent claim 8 is amended to recite allowable dependent claim 9 in independent form.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit the independent claims define patentable subject matter. The remaining claims depend from the independent claims and therefore also define patentable subject matter. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of claims 1, 3-5, 8, 10-12, 15, and 16 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct any fees arising as a result of this Amendment or any other communication from or to credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-2117.

Respectfully submitted,



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